1724

Docket No.: C1069.700941



pplicant:

James L. Filson et al.

Serial No:

10/017,077

RECEIVED

Confirmation, No.:

7531

SEP 2 2 2003

Filed: For:

December 14, 2001

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Examiner:

WASTEWATER Ivars C. Cintins

Art Unit:

1724

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the \ St day of September, 2003.

Jeanne W. Chub

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

Information Disclosure Statement [X]

[X]References Cited

[X]Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 395-7000.

A check is not enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$180.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 50/0214. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted.

James A. Filson et al, Applicants

By:

Peter C. Lando, Reg. No. 34,654

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Date: September 15, 2003

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DOCKET NO: C1069.700941

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF **DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

B. This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed more than three months after the filing date of this application and after the mailing date of the first Office Action, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

- 1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
- 2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
- 3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Art Unit: 1724

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

James L./Filson et al., Applicant

Rv

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Docket No. C1069.700941 Date: September 15, 2003

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FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)			APPLICATION NO.:	10/017,077	ATTY. DOCKET NO	D.: C1069.700941	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				FILING DATE: December 14, 2001		CONFIRMATION NO.: 7531	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			APPLICANT:	James L. Filson et a	1.		
Sheet 1		of	1	GROUP ART UNIT:	1724	EXAMINER:	Ivars C. Cintins

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's	Cite	U.S. Patent Doc	cument	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited	Date of Publication or of issue	
Initials	No.	Number	Kind Code	Document Of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY		
	C1	3,658,697		Huether	04/25/1972	
	C2	3,873,581		Fitzpatrick et al.	03/25/1975	
	C3	5,045,213		Bowers	09/03/1991	
	C4	5,558,775		Busch, Jr. RECEIVED	09/24/1996	
				SEP 2 2 2003		
				TC 1700		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited	Date of Publication of	Translation
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code	" (not necessary)	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	(Y/N)

OTHER ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. ___, filed ___, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - Must provide a copy of any patent, publication, other information listed, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]